

THE NORTHAMPTON BOOK

Chapters from 300 years
in the Life of
A NEW ENGLAND TOWN



PUBLISHED BY
THE TERCENTENARY COMMITTEE
OF
NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

1954
City of Northampton

THE NORTHAMPTON BOOK

On its 300th birthday, an unusual town deserves an unusual book. To prepare it, half a hundred of her sons and daughters have joined together, some of them amateurs of local history, others of national distinction in the field of letters...

Athens and Paradise

The result is a permanent souvenir of the town's Tercentenary, a handsome book of some 400 pages, generously illustrated, which captures the quality of a town variously hailed as the Meadow City, as the Athens of the Connecticut Valley, and by Jenny Lind, the Swedish Nightingale, as the Paradise of America.

More than New England

Yet this book is not merely a local history. The growth of the American tradition is revealed through the story of Northampton and its people. Whether you know New England well or are a stranger to this historic, picturesque, and flavorsome part of our country, you will discover many chapters to your taste between the covers of this Birthday Book.

Some Famous Men

Along Northampton's elm-shaded streets, the reader will find himself encountering such major figures as Jonathan Edwards, America's first great religious thinker; Joseph Hawley, "the Patrick Henry of Massachusetts"; Caleb Strong, member of the Constitutional Convention, first United States Senator from Massachusetts, and eleven times Governor of that Commonwealth; Calvin Coolidge, thirtieth President.

One meets also many fascinating minor personages: David Ruggles, blind Negro hydropathist; Oliver Smith, whose unique will establishing the Smith Charities was the subject of a famous battle in the local Court House, waged by two legal giants named Daniel Webster and Rufus Choate; Sylvester Graham, eccentric food cultist, father of the graham cracker; and many others.

Some Chapter Headings

The Last of the River Gods

Northampton: Center of Puritan Controversy

The Northampton and New Haven Canal

Early Days of Florence and Leeds

The Water Cures

Floods and Disasters

The Theatre in Northampton

The Great Northampton Bank Robbery

Hotels and Taverns

Faith Builds A College

"Our Goodly Heritage"

Institutions of Renown

Here has grown to world prominence the Clarke School which, with the aid of Alexander Graham Bell, pioneered in teaching the deaf to speak. Here also, in 1871, Sophia Smith founded Smith College, pioneer in higher education for women and the largest privately endowed resident college for women in the world.

Utopia and Water Cures

In the outskirts of the town flourished one of America's most unusual Utopian communities to which came such visitors as Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, and Sojourner Truth, the African Sibyl.

During the 1850's, its water cures made Northampton a true resort of fashion.

Local Industries

In those years, industry flourished. Seventy-four factories lined the banks of its Mill River and everything from superior woollens to the first machine-made covered buttons went out from Northampton to the world.

The mulberry craze of the 1830's gave rise to the large silk mills which dominated the industrial life of the town. Before and since their decline, Northampton has been the home of diversified and specialized industries with a permanent force of highly skilled workers. In this story can be seen reflected the changing fortunes of New England's economic development.

"Our Goodly Heritage"

We read too of new "settlers" from many countries who have been drawn to this "supremely likable town" by its industries, its fertile fields, its fine institutions, and who have added their contributions of diverse backgrounds and skills to the enrichment of the community store.

And so, through its vivid chapters, The Northampton Book portrays a town as old as America and as young as America—its distinctive elements deepening our understanding of the American heritage.

Non-Commercial -
Non-Profit -

THE NORTHAMPTON BOOK

will be published in the Fall of 1954.

It is possible to offer The Book for \$5.00 instead of the \$10.00 which would normally be asked for so rich a volume because the writers, editors, designers, and other experts who have participated in its creation have given their services and talents as a 300th birthday present to their city.

Publisher: City of Northampton

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✓ = alumna or "Smith-connected" - Total Smith authors = 25-
 ✓✓ = faculty: present or emeritus -
 XX = gives history of Smith in a nutshell -
 XX = Cops and Robbers - THE NORTHAMPTON BOOK CONTENTS XX = Special. M. E. Chase.

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5. The Part Played by Northampton in the Revolution
6. Major Joseph Hawley
7. The Ely Outbreaks in Northampton: Prelude to Shays Rebellion
8. Caleb Strong: The Last of the River Gods
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 - II. "Patriotism and Piety" III. Mr. Madison's War

By Nora Flahive ✓
 By Susan Reed Stifler
 By Daniel Aaron ✓✓
 By Elizabeth A. Foster ✓✓
 By Elizabeth A. Foster ✓✓
 By Francis Brown

By Sidney Kaplan

- Part II - Enterprisers and Forerunners
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 10. The New Haven and Northampton Canal
 11. The Hanging of Daley and Halligan
 12. Oliver Smith, Esquire
 13. Dr. Sylvester Graham
 14. The Northampton Association of Education and Industry
 15. The Water Cures

By Frank H. Hankins ✓✓
 By William P. Donovan
 By Richard C. Garvey
 By Richard C. Garvey
 By Richard C. Garvey

(MRS. R. B.) By Hope Hale Davis ✓✓
 By Dorothy B. Porter
 with the collaboration of Edwin C. Rozwenc

16. Northampton in the Civil War
 - I. "Old Hampshire's Favorite Company"
 - II. "The Gallant 10th"

By Edwin C. Rozwenc

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 By Ransom Waterman ✓✓
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 By George T. Pratt
 By Florence Bannard Adams ✓

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 - II. Under Burton and Neilson
 - III. The College Completes Seventy-Five Years

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 Annetta I. Clark ✓

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 and John Gordon
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 By Esther Lowenthal ✓✓
 By Leo Leopold
 By Harold U. Faulkner ✓✓

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 By Persis Putnam ✓
 By Josephine S. Starr
 By Eleanor S. Upton ✓ and
 Lucy O'Meara ✓

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 By Elizabeth S. Duvall
 By Ruth K. Burke
 By Lucy Wilson Benson ✓
 By Nancy Bowker Brownell ✓
 By Priscilla Bartlett Hill
 By Richard C. Garvey
 By Virginia Corwin ✓✓
 By Mary Ellen Chase ✓✓

APPENDIX I - Chronology of the Northampton Tercentenary Celebration

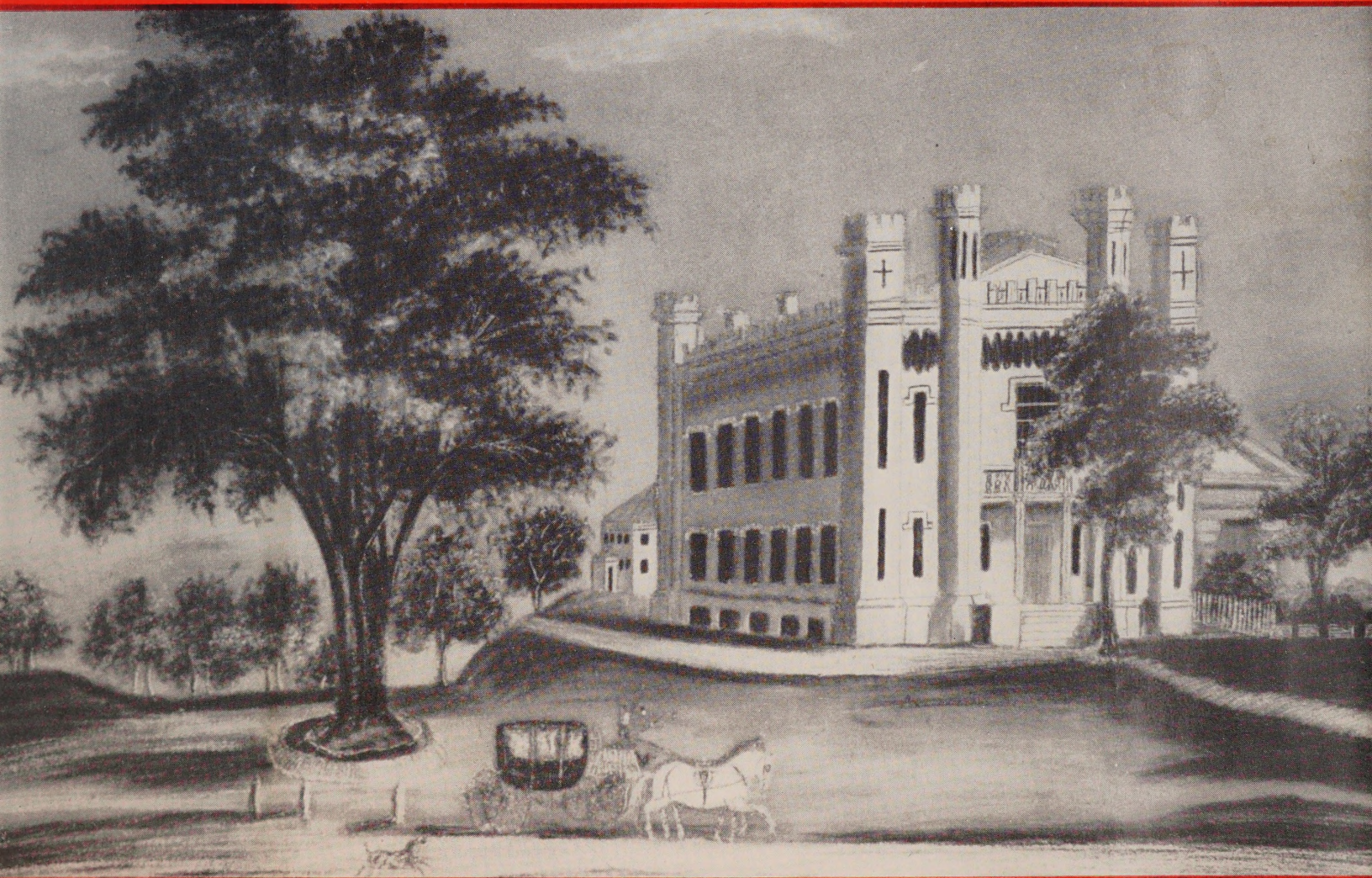
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(Continued on back flap)

Price \$5.00

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